

**From:** Dave C  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/26/02 9:11pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I want to open this with a preface. I am not an anti-Microsoft proponent and am a regular user of their products. However, I also believe that the American laws, although not perfect, need to be obeyed. I have been following the Microsoft trial with some interest for awhile now and here are my conclusions.

1. Microsoft was originally found guilty of being a predatory monopoly and ordered to be split into two pieces.
2. A panel of appellate judges found that although none of the previous judge's findings were incorrect in any way there was a bias against Microsoft and that the breaking of the company was not necessary. What struck me here was that NONE of the findings of facts against Microsoft were overturned.
3. Microsoft became a very large financial backer (for the first time ever) in the last presidential election.
4. After the election all charges were summarily dropped.

As a law-abiding and voting member of this great country I find it disturbing that our judicial system can be so easily (apparently) bought out. Our fore-fathers instituted a system of checks and balances to keep one branch of government from gaining too much power over the other branches of government, and yet this seems to be the case. In a situation in which the defendant is undeniably guilty (the guilt of Microsoft was upheld by the appellate panel of judges) a campaign contribution was enough to have all charges dropped. To allow this mockery of our judicial system would be a crime unto itself and reduce the authority and respect that it has engendered over the past two-and-a-quarter centuries. This must not be allowed. I do not think that the punishment should be more than the crime permits, but clearly Microsoft has repeatedly broken the laws of the United States without any regard or shame. This must not be allowed. Thank you.  
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"Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." --  
Psalm 90:12

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